



STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS



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ENIGMAS

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

UNBIASED ACCOUNTS INVOLVING UNUSUAL OCCURRENCES
AND, AS YET.... UNDISCOVERED SCIENCES....
GHOSTS.... U.F.O'S AND OTHER ITEMS OF WEIRD AND
WONDERFUL PHENOMENA!.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE JOURNAL OF STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS, (S.P.I.).

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ENIGMAS is published bi-monthly and is available on subscription for £7.50 for five issues. Send cheque or postal order made payable to Ronald Halliday at the above address. Overseas rates dealt with on application. Articles, letters criticism or praise, are welcomed by the Editor and should be sent to the Editorial address. All submissions are subject to editing for style and clarity and conciseness. No slanderous remarks of a defamation character please, unless it is accompanied with a heavy donation to SPI.

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S. P. I.

The purpose of STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS as an organisation, is defined clearly by its title - to investigate strange phenomena in its many categories. Such categories include reported hauntings, ie, apparitions, poltergeist events, UFO sightings, and various forms of psychic events. SPI was conceived in principle in 1979. Involvement in SPI is more than academic beyond the appeal of the subject as a study. We are drawn to it because we share the mutual opinion that the subject demands Investigation and a definite awareness on as wide a scale as possible, and which will help to establish a firmer foundation that, "There Are Such Things".

The aims of SPI, are to collect, research, and publish, accounts relating to most aspects of strange phenomena, and to inform the general public that there is indeed a case to be answered. SPI do not hold or express any strict viewpoint as to the nature of the events of which we research, we keep an open mind, and hope that by continued research we may come up with some answers to account for what at present eludes us.

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EDITORIAL.

It pains me very much when I attend a Spiritualist Church and I am confronted by a 4th division medium. For not only am I angry at the 'presumed' Spiritualist evidence of deceased communicators that can be given, but I am very much aware that there are those present who may be attending a Spiritualist Church for the very first time. And if they unfortunately attend when there is a 4th division medium demonstrating, then its very obvious that they 'may' go home very much disillusioned with the Spiritualist philosophy and Life After Death Communication.

I've seen it myself readers, I know what I am talking about. I've sat in my chair at the church and listened to so much drivel that I could scream. I'm amazed that I have never got up and left, but I would never do so out of respect of the church members and their committee. I'll admit though, that its like anything else, in the sense that there will always be those in various professions who attain a higher degree of development than others, and there will be those who may try and try but never attain a satisfactory level of achievement, and this readers is I'm afraid, sometimes the case with Spiritualism.

I've seen a good Alloa medium who once, when demonstrating clairvoyance to a large audience, stated that she was losing her 'power', and would have to stop. That's fine, and its also honest, but there are those who would go on and inform their sitters of trivial made up drivel which usually is generalisation and basic body reading, in the sense of a sitter perhaps rubbing his or her wrist, and the medium picking up on this and commenting to them that they are having problems with their wrists or joints. This in turn is greeted by the sitter as marvellous evidence coming from the spirit world, when in effect, its as I've said, basic body language reading. I'm sure that there is an element of this in 'some' medium's demonstrations throughout the country.

I'm sure that the reader must agree that there is a small residue of 'phoney' mediums out there in material land and you may be wondering why I am bringing this up. Well its like this. I can't for the life of me understand the point that when spirit communication is gained via medium to sitter, and 'trivial'

evidence is relayed, why oh why is it that in most cases, very few names and addresses and 'constructive' evidence is given? Look, the deceased has apparently made contact, so go for it man, give us the works. But what do we get? We get, "look in the wardrobe, for at the top, hidden behind the pile of old books, is a letter which you should have received". O.K. trivial evidence like this can in some instances be just as earth-shattering if they are found to be correct. I accept this, its the small and seemingly unimportant things that people can relate to and accept which in some instances MAY be better than lots of names and addresses.

But as I say, if spirit can come forward in this manner with this evidence, then surely they can come forward with much more stronger evidential information, which in its own write would surely demonstrate continuity after death. But readers, we face another problem, and that is the fact that some of the alleged spirit communications may not be from the 'other side', but from the 'inside', ie, from the collective consciousness of the sitter themselves. The medium may be picking up telepathically, the information, and relaying it to the sitter as coming from the other side.

If we accept telepathy as fact, as I'm sure most of us do, then of course this should be a strong possibility. And how about medium psychometry? Could mediums receive from sitters, information from them in an overall psychometry way? in the sense that it is not deceased relatives and friends imparting knowledge, but the medium through her latent talent, is scanning and picking up from the sitter impressions and events which may be contained within that individual. As is the case when a medium psychometrises an object, be it a coin, stone, or watch.

This is not altogether different from E.S.P. So is this really the evidence for Life After Death? Is there no Life After Death but a series of retained pictures and thoughts constructed into a pattern by the sitter which may well be perceived by the medium and relayed into Life After Death evidence? If I'm honest, which I am, as I don't sell cars, I would say that there is a small per-cent of this goes on. But at the end of the day when all's said and done, one bad apple won't spoil the barrel. Spiritualism is a religion, a religion which states you will live after you die, and apart from some shady mediums, the evidence would suggest that this is so. But again that evidence one must find for themselves. You won't be a good driver if you don't study the highway code. Its the same for Spiritualism. Start reading more now, you'll be amazed at what you find.

Dechmont Revisited

BY Ken Higgens.



Almost eleven years after Robert Taylor's sighting of a strange craft in a forest clearing at Dechmont Law in Livingston, the story is still clear in the minds of many individuals. SRUFO, (Scottish Research into Unidentified Flying Objects), based only four miles away in the village of East Calder, have found a number of local witnesses that claim to have seen large orange lights in the sky above the Dechmont area on the morning of 9th November 1979.

One gentleman on his way to work in a factory at Newbridge at 8pm, saw a large floating orange light, it was hovering for a few minutes before disappearing into thin air. Another gentleman driving towards Dechmont on the A8 at 7.30-8.00am, claimed that a large orange ball like a torch, came towards his car. In a panic, he swerved to avoid it and narrowly missed an oncoming car. He checked the other driver was OK, then realised the light was further away than he thought and continued his journey.

A lady on her way to Bangour Hospital heard a "hissing noise" close to Dechmont and saw a bright light in the sky, this too is thought to have happened around 8am. The above witnesses are unknown to each other, and all three remember the Bob Taylor story, this being the reason for remembering the date of their sightings. One individual reported the incident to the police.



Robert Taylor, 1982.
Photo, Malcolm Robinson.

Dechmont Law is a lot busier now than what it was back in 1979, there is a thriving golf and country club, the Livingston Countryside Ranger Service use it as a venue for outdoor activities including a recent plane, train and UFO watch as was advertised. People with cameras are often seen wandering about, many asking for the UFO location. There is an exclusive housing estate which is starting to spread up the hill. I wonder if the residents know how close they are to Bob Taylor's "encounter" location of 1979.

There is still wildlife in abundance on Dechmont Law or Deer Hill as it is known locally. During a recent trip to the top of the hill, I came across wild deer, rabbits hare, grouse, and pheasant, but no strange looking craft.

It is good for Scottish UFOlogy that this historic event of almost eleven years ago, is to be remembered by the erection of a plaque by Livingston Development Corporation marking the UFO landing location. Much credit must go to S.P.I. for their original suggestion which is not only the first time such an event has been recognised by an official body in Scotland, it may well be a world first, and will surely go down as such in the annals of world UFOlogy.

Plaque will mark Livingston's first close encounter of the third kind

By GORDON DEAN

THE first plaque to be erected in Britain to commemorate an alleged UFO landing is to be unveiled later this year in Livingston, 11 years after the report. It will be mounted on a cairn marking the spot where Bob Taylor, a foreman forester employed by Livingston Development Corporation, claimed to have stumbled across a silver spinning-top-shaped craft standing in a clearing and was attacked by two "strange creatures" before he

managed to stagger to his home a mile away in Broomknowe Drive, Livingston Station. The decision to give official recognition to the incident at Dechmont Law in November 1979, follows an approach to the LDC by Strange Phenomena Investigations (Scotland) and has been welcomed by UFO enthusiasts who regard Mr Taylor's experience as a very well-established and intriguing case. Gordon Davis, the corporation's technical director, who is in charge

of the project, said that visitors to the area often asked where the landing occurred and visited the spot. He said that the case was still very fresh in a lot of people's minds. "A colleague was recently on holiday in America. When he said he came from Livingston, the Americans remarked that it was where the UFO landed, so the

incident is also internationally known." Mr Davis said that the wording on the plaque would not say that something actually happened but that something was suspected of having happened. It will read: "This is the site referred to in Arthur C. Clarke's *Mysterious World* which describes an encounter between a forestry worker not waiting and what appeared to him as an Unidentified Flying Object."

Arthur Clarke is a leading authority on UFOs. The director said that while some people might claim that Mr Taylor imagined it all, one element that could not be explained were the marks, regular in pattern, and deep, that had been left behind with no tracks into the area and no tracks out. Jimmy Handley, director of investigations with the British UFO Research Association, said: "By erecting this plaque Scotland is certainly establishing a precedent

The Cosmic Joker

BY Jenny Randles.



JENNY RANGLES.

Photo M. Robinson.

Either something is strange and unexplained, or it is not. That ought to be self evident. The principle of the 'Cosmic Joker' refutes this hypothesis. For here an entirely new mystery has been fashioned out of a seemingly diverse set of curious anecdotes. It is not easy to define this Enigma, rather it is best to illustrate it with one or two examples.

In 1977 when the T.V. series "The Six Million Dollar Man" was very popular, a milkman from Walsall strode into history when he was forced to emulate his hero. A runaway car careered down the highway right past him and so, naturally, he stepped in front of it, dug in his heels, and stopped it with brute strength. What else could the milkman be called but Steve Austin.

Two years later a South African farmer was suffering at the hands of a fearsome drought which made Britain's problems look like a veritable monsoon. So he decided to go into his fields and plead for his prayers to be answered. They were indeed, possibly in more ways than one. A sudden torrential storm hit, as if by magic, and a bolt of lightning forked from the sky killing his wife. Or how about the delightfully ironic tale of the poor man knocked down by a car in the traffic mayhem of modern New York. He rose from the street totally unhurt, but a bystander persuaded him to feign injury and lay down in the road once more so he could claim insurance compensation. However, the car driver had presumed that all was well and then took his foot off the brake, rolling the car right on top of the now prone victim. It was his next of kin who filed the insurance claim.

The tendency might be to dismiss these stories as mere coincidence or tricks of fate. But many researchers now believe that there is more to it than that. Of course, when you think about the number of events which happen in the universe it is obvious that at some point a remarkable combination will create something fantastic by blind chance. After all, every once in a while a group of four people playing cards are dealt four complete suits from a shuffled pack. This is no miracle. It is just the result of the fact that millions of games of cards are played every year, and so even the remote possibility (millions to one against) of

this "order out of chaos" deal is literally certain to happen sometime or other. Nevertheless there are now recognised limits to chance. There is a hoary old adage that if you seat a monkey at a typewriter and let him bang away randomly at the keys, then sooner or later he is bound to produce the entire works of Shakespeare. In fact, appealing as this seems, it has been mathematically demonstrated that in the entire age of the universe that any monkey would even get as far as "To be or not to be, that is the answer".

Certain phenomena do reach beyond chance to the realms of something else altogether. This means that if it is not a random event, then something is guiding it into existence, a principle of coincidence formation, if you like. Since many of the results appear to an outsider as amusing, (although perhaps not usually to the victim) the term 'Cosmic Joker' has been invented to cater for the discovery. How do we tell the difference between chance and the Cosmic Joker? That is indeed a problem, for it is often difficult to calculate the odds for any event to occur when there are so many variables involved.

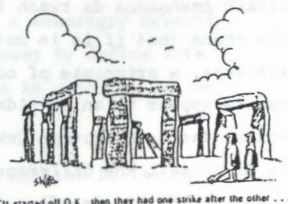
A good illustration is the question of appropriate names for specific circumstances. The list of a Brighton magistrates court has on it many names of indicted people. So we may smile to learn that N. Skidmore admitted driving with worn tires, or that pleading guilt to speeding was I. Dunnett. But surely this is just chance? But is it still chance when at a Sydney wedding the bride, groom, and best man were called respectively, Lawless, Swindells and Cheetham? All were lawyers. Or how about the man in charge of postal redirection in Stockport, Mr Males?

The principle is seen more clearly when coincidence piles on top of coincidence. Barman Thomas Key married Ann Lock. Their only child Bill Key, married Ellen Bolt. Her mother's maiden name was Evelyn Chain. And this is no isolated incident. The pages of "Fortean Times", the Journal which takes a look at this sort of phenomena, is always packed with such cases. Another example comes when coincidence is linked with some other sort of paranormal phenomenon; such as this next incredible story. It originates from a dentist's surgery in a small German town which became the focus of a poltergeist back in February 1982. A voice would shout from the loo when people sat on it. One woman was told by the spectral voice "Move your behind, I can't see a thing"? All of this was bizarre enough but the dentist's name (which only becomes relevant in English) was actually Dr Karl Backseitz. Such an end product leaves one sensing the intervention of that joker.

The phenomenon finds a natural ally in what we otherwise term 'jinkes'. The

jinx is in fact just a special case of the cosmic joker at work. Philip Ellis from St Albans is typical. By the age of 24 he had succeeded in making violent contact with almost every form of transport imaginable. He had crashed in a glider, been hit by an express train, and as he walked over a bridge it collapsed dumping him onto the roof of a passing car. When he had a confrontation with a landrover he perhaps thought he was running out of options. But on leaving hospital he got run over by a bus just outside the grounds.

This is not the only recognised overlap with other phenomena. Researchers into many anomalies have noted how ludicrous occurrences often mar their progress. The number of times a camera or tape recorder has failed just as a ghost appears, or a poltergeist begins to attack, increases almost every day. Investigators are used to waiting around for hours with nothing happening, knowing full well that the moment they pack up their equipment the fun will start. They also know only too well the claim of a witness that he unfortunately did not capture that UFO he saw on his camera because he took the final shot on the film a few minutes beforehand. And how does one react when sincere witnesses tell you of an alien being that was the double of Kermit the Frog, or the one which offered the French farmer the secrets of the universe (those secrets being "constipation"?)



My favourite of this category of cosmic jokes is the trick played on famous naturalist Sir Peter Scott. He had become fascinated by the Loch Ness Monster and publicly endorsed some highly dubious underwater shots of the creature snapped by an American research team. Most anomalists do not believe these photographs are of a real monster, (and there is some evidence that they are really of a sunken model used as a hoax monster in a Sherlock Holmes movie some years back). But Sir Peter proudly used the film to name the monster scientifically as "Nessiteras Rhombopteryx", (meaning, Ness creature with the diamond shaped fin). Then a delighted follower of the cosmic joker pointed out to the unamused scientist that this was an anagram of "Monster hoax by Sir Peter S". One wonders who really came up with that name.

Lancashire anomalist Bob Forrest believes that one may even relate the infamous "Sod's Law" (which says amongst other things that if you choose a queue at a bank or post office because it looks the shortest you will invariably get held up by the proverbial little old lady paying in her life savings). Although Bob

does recognise that it is difficult deciding whether these are real principles of the universe or simply modes of perception by our curious brains, still he points out "It almost appears as if the universe is a living thing, and it likes to play with people occasionally". A good few scientists these days including Biologist Dr Rupert Sheldrake (who has already published two books, one which the esteemed science Journal 'Nature' has called the best candidate for burning in many years) think that there could be a sort of "collective consciousness" which rules what we experience, formed out of all the billions of individual consciousnesses in the world.

A simple analogy to this would be drops of water dripping from a roof onto an inclined surface. Over the years there will erode into the surface as gravity carries the water away, thus creating a channel which in turn will focus the course of the water into a river. Now the river channel determines the behaviour of each individual drop of water once it has fallen; although the channel itself is the cumulative result of all the drops which have continually fallen and are still falling. There are grounds for believing that this might be the way the universe works. However, if we are willing to accept that some people possess abilities which all scientists do not yet accept, a further problem arises. Coincidences might be self produced. Take the case of Brenda Rawson who lost her engagement ring on St Annes beach in 1961. She and her fiancé sifted the sands weekend after weekend but could not retrieve it. Even after they married they would check police lost and found records whenever they visited St Annes.

Sixteen years later, Brenda's husband's uncle died and through the legal aftermath they discovered a long lost cousin in Yorkshire. After meeting, a casual conversation about metal detectors led the relative to explain how one of his children had found a diamond ring on the beach at St Annes all those years before. It was, of course, Brenda's missing engagement ring. On the face of it this seems like the cosmic joker at work again. But consider the possibility that Brenda's mind (through precognition) had sensed the future discovery of the lost cousin and then through telepathy she may have used the fact that he was to visit St Annes with his children (or even manipulated it) and thus subconsciously directed him to search the area of sands where she had been when the ring went missing. This idea is no more ridiculous than the essential theory of the cosmic joker.

This same sort of thing happens to most people during their lives but they usually fail to recognise the event as paranormal. Here is a good example which I can certainly vouch for because it happened to me. In June 1983 I was left

alone in the house for a week when my husband went to the Isle of Man to watch the TT motorcycle races. I was presenting and writing a weekly series of features on the Independent station Radio City at the time. After my show that week, I went through my mail and found one from a listener who told me to remember him to one of the disc jockeys saying he would be on the "Kipper Express" that week. The phrase meant nothing to me so I went to query the DJ about it. From him I learnt that "Kipper Express" meant the listener had gone to the Isle of Man to watch the TT.

A jovial few minutes followed as we discussed this and we were joined by Mark Jones another DJ noted for his wry sense of humour. He suggested that since my programme that day had been about unusual objects falling out of a clear sky, perhaps kippers would descend somewhere. The next day I went to the cinema for a long double feature and came out to find a nasty thunderstorm heading my way. Having no umbrella, I decided to make a run for the bus stop, only to fall flat on my face half way there. I still find it hard to believe what I had slipped on. A discarded kipper was lying there on the pavement, with no obvious source from whence it had come.

Whenever I begin to doubt the reality of the Cosmic Joker, I think of that kipper. The person who said that truth is stranger than fiction certainly knew what he was talking about.

(c) Jenny Randles.

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Cropping The Circle BY Ron Halliday.

On 21st June 1990, the Dundee Courier carried a report that crop circles had appeared in fields on the Ardblair Estate near Blairgowrie Perthshire. Following this, I got in touch with the journalist who reported the story and obtained the details of the landowner concerned, Mr Laurence Blair Oliphant. Mr Oliphant kindly consented to allow us to visit the scene of the incident.



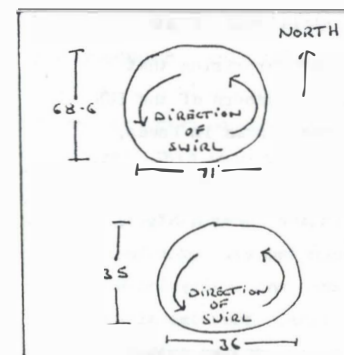
RON HALLIDAY.

Unfortunately, in between the appearance of the article, it being brought to my attention and my contacting him, Mr Oliphant had harvested the area concerned. However, the appearance of the circles (two) was confirmed by the journalist involved, and the site had been visited by David Cowan, a well known Scottish dowser and geopathic stress Investigator who took detailed measurements of the circles. David gave me some interesting information about the history of the site, but in view of his forthcoming book, I have accepted his request that this is not revealed for the time being.

It was not till the 15th of August that I, Malcolm Robinson, Lorraine Anderson, and her son Mark, were able to make the trip to the estate. Its about an hour and a half's drive from where we stay in Central Scotland. We were kindly received by the Oliphant family in their white walled castle, given measurements of the circles, (see diagram), and then taken by Mr Oliphant to the field concerned. This lay just north of the A923 on the edge of the town of Blairgowrie, (where Robert Taylor of the 'Livingston UFO Incident' now lives, Editor).

Grass in the field had been cut short and there were sheep grazing, so there were little obvious remains of the circles to be seen. Mr Oliphant informed me that

the circles had definitely appeared overnight as he had passed by on an evening and the field had been as normal; yet by the following morning, the phenomenon was clearly visible.



Mr Oliphant directed us to an area at the edge of the field adjacent to which grew a thick clump of trees surrounding an old stone quarry. It was not possible from the state of the ground to determine exactly where the circles had appeared, though two clumps of vegetation about twenty yards apart seemed to indicate the approximate location. The field itself lay on the slope of a hill, and the situation of the circles about one third way up the slope might lend support to the vortice theory.

We tested the site with dowsing rods, and certainly achieved a powerful response revealed through the movement of the rods. Certainly a strong energy field of some sort in this field, but not possible to determine the precise relation of this to the circles after such a lapse in time. Walking across the field east to west, I received a whole variety of responses through the rods which confirmed that the energy force criss-crossed the field both in a north/south, and east/west direction.

Mr Oliphant informed me that this was the first time he was aware of circles appearing on his estate. Intriguingly, he confirmed that one had appeared the year before (1989) on nearby farmland, south-west of the Ardblair Estate, but the landowner concerned was anxious to avoid publicity on the matter. It is intended to return to the site later in the year for further investigation.

COMMUNION—THE MOVIE

Starring

CHRISTOPHER WALKEN, LINDSAY COURSE
FRANCES STERNHAGEN and JOEL CARLSON.

Directed by

PHILLIPPE MORA

Communism was published in 1986. It sold 255,000 New York times best seller. weeks. Published in 1987, over 2,000,000 it became a New York Times on the list for 36 weeks.



(WHITLEY STRIEBER.)

hardback in February of copies and was number one It was on the list for 15 paperback in September copies were sold. Again best-seller, and remained It still sells 18,000

copies a month. With such a pedigree as the above, it is not surprising that COMMUNION has now been made into a movie. On September 20th, members of the IUN were invited to a private screening of the movie at the Odeon Cinema in Leeds, West Yorkshire, courtesy of the film distributors Vestron UK Ltd.

The movie stars Christopher Walken (academy award winner in the 'Deer Hunter') as Whitley Strieber, and Lindsay Course (academy award nominated for her role in 'The Places of the Heart') as Anne Strieber. More often than not, Hollywood have gone over the top when making movies of so called true stories. You some times wonder what they hope to achieve in making such a film. A documentary entertainment, or perhaps a mixture of the two? With this in mind I feel that Whitley Strieber (who wrote the screenplay), and the director Phillippe Mora, deserve a great deal of credit for taking a less sensational, more docu-drama approach to the movie version of COMMUNION. This type of stance lends a more authenticated feeling to the movie which has been sadly lacking in other similar films.

COMMUNION (as if you didn't already know) is Strieber's account of his abduction and examination by strange entities he calls 'the visitors'.

In COMMUNION, Christopher Walken plays Strieber, who lives in New York City with his wife Anne and his son Andrew. During an overnight stay at their remote cabin in upstate New York, the Streibers see strange intensely bright lights over the cabin, but attribute it to dreams, or some other normal phenomenon.



Staying at the cabin with the Striebers are two friends, who are so shook up by these lights that they demand to be taken home the very next morning. And so the story begins. The initial 'sighting' of the lights is followed by Strieber's mood changes, with nightmares of strange creatures. He, and son Andrew, also talk of being taken away by 'the little blue doctors'. Fearing for his sanity and trying to save his marriage, which is almost on the point of collapsing, Strieber seeks medical advice. Before too long Strieber is hypnotised by Dr Janet Duffy, (Frances Sternhagen), and the abduction scenario emerges, not just once, but several times.

Strieber's encounters with the 'visitors' throughout his life also emerges. To cut a long story short, (and why not Phil, Ed), Strieber finally seems to come to terms with his experiences and accepts them to be 'real', and is somewhat thankful that he is not going crazy. The film ends with Strieber starting to write the book COMMUNION. This film is as faithful as possible to the book, bearing in mind that it did not have a huge budget. However, unlike the book, Strieber's screenplay draws no conclusions about the origin, nature, or purpose of the 'visitors' This noncommittal view cements the docu-drama type style. Christopher Walken gives a very capable, quirky performance as Strieber. Course fares just as well as Strieber's sympathetic wife Anne. Some of the scenes do have an element of suspense, while others display the bizarre nature of abductions. Considering the film had quite a low budget by today's standards, the special effects, such as they are, worked quite well. However, I feel that there could have been some room for improvement in this without spending millions of dollars.

The tall thin entities with the big black eyes look too much like plastic for my liking. The movie is complemented by the music of Eric Clapton which I would have liked to hear more of. Is the film worth seeing? Well if you are expecting something like Close Encounters of the Third Kind, then you are going to be

disappointed. On the other hand, if you are willing to watch a film that possibly suggests an alternative to the ETH explanation for abductions, and you are a fan of the COMMUNION book, then I would say that yes it is. Having said that, I feel that this movie would perhaps come across better on the small screen rather than the large screen of the cinema. Check your local press for details. The video release is due for around April of 1991.

Reviewed by Philip Mantle.

Witchcraft



WITCHES
A HYSTERICAL THEORY.
BY ANTHONY NORTH.



The Witch hunts of the 16th and 17th centuries were arguably the greatest crime ever committed by man. When we speak of genocide, we automatically think of Hitler and his extermination of six million Jews. A heinous crime in its own right, but mathematically slight compared to the NINE million women put to death on suspicion of anti-religious practices and making compacts with the Devil.

Most people are aware of the name Salem, and the atrocities committed there by supposedly godly folk. Beginning just after Christmas 1691, this Massachusetts town suffered 10 months of insanity. Beginning with seven young girls dabbling in fortune telling. It ended with a hundred people imprisoned and twenty executed. Was Christianity so weak in this Puritan town as to allow such a large number of Witches to accumulate? Or is it more likely that in Salem, as in the rest of the Western world of the time, women were simply the victims of mass hysteria? Let us see if Witchcraft is possible.

If the stories are to be believed, then a bad witch has the ability to bring down an ill on another person. The ability is synonymous, though greatly exaggerated with Voodoo. So can a person 'curse' another? Of late, the term 'vagal inhibition' has entered the medical textbooks. It is a condition in which the body runs down slowing its activities, due to a sense of sheer hopelessness. Basically it is the reverse reaction following 'panic', and death can come surprisingly quickly.

One of the most harrowing cases concerns the death of Lesley Whittle in 1975, kidnapped and positioned on a ledge of a dark, damp, drain with a wire noose round her neck. The situation brought on hopelessness, resulting in her death. If we associate vagal inhibition with 'curses', it is quite probable that if a person really believes in the power of the curse, then the hopelessness he feels could, indeed, lead to the curse working. And no matter what belief system is behind the

curse, be it Witchcraft, Voodoo, or any other, the primary element of the curse is that the subject must 'know' he has been cursed. So yes, medical knowledge is now revealing that the power of the curse could exist. Witches are also believed to have invoked demons. Is there any truth in this ability? In the 1880s Professor Carpenter of Boston began to experiment with the power of hypnosis. By no means the first to do so, there was however one such experiment that has entered the annals of psychology. It concerned the hypnotising of a student in Washington D.C.



Under hypnosis, he asked the student if he would like to speak with Socrates? He then told the student that Socrates was in the corner. He couldn't hear him himself, so he asked the student to tell him what Socrates said. The student and 'Socrates' went on to converse for two hours. This whole experiment was conducted in front of an audience, including the sceptic Thomas Jay Hudson, who later wrote that the thoughts that came out of this conversation would have '...formed one of the grandest and most coherent systems of spiritual philosophy ever conceived by the brain of man'.

It is probable that the student saw and heard an apparition. As to whether it actually 'was' Socrates, I doubt it. What happened in this case, and in thousands of cases before and after, did, I feel, involve the retrieval of information from sources other than the personal mind. However, this paper is not designed to look at this ability, but to show that 'entities' can be manifested by the human mind. Suffice to say here, that when Spiritualists in the audience decided that they were seeing proof of Spiritualism, the Professor summoned up for the student a philosophical pig to discourse on the Hindu belief of reincarnation.

The ability to create entities is far more common than we think. I can remember vividly walking into my bedroom one night and seeing a huge black beetle scuttle across the bed. I turned on the light and realised I was looking at a piece of fluff. Rather mundane, but I'm sure it was born out of the same 'mechanics'. So, stated briefly, there is evidence to suggest that witches could, and no doubt still can, place successful curses on the believer and manifest entities. However are we to believe that over two centuries, nine million women did just that? Somehow the mathematics sound too ridiculous. And there is another problem. Only a tiny minority of Witches are (what the media would term) 'black'. Most would be termed 'white', ie, believers in the pre-Christian fertility religions that today are known as Pagan. Therefore, how do we reconcile the number of white witches with the millions who, according to the hunters, manifested the Devil? We can't. However, such a proliferation of Devils and demons is suggestive of an interesting theory.

One night in 1938 many Americans became bored with the popular radio show they were listening to. The act presently performing was boring to the extreme, or so they obviously thought. They changed channel, and were suddenly listening to authentic sounding news reports speaking of the landing, in America, of spacemen intent on invasion. Over the next few hours America went

Rattler's Tale...

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mad with hundreds of reports of sightings of little green men. Of course, what they really tuned into was an adaption of Well's 'War Of The Worlds' into a radio play by Orsen Wells. But what are we to make of all the 'sightings'? Were the witnesses demented? (good point Tony, Ed), Or was it rather that the manifestations were 'suggested' to them in the same way as the above experiment in hypnosis?

If you are prepared to accept the latter, then we have a possible explanation for the appalling deaths during the witch hunts. Perhaps it wasn't those poor women who brought down curses and manifested demons in their millions, but the superstitious fears of the populace, bringing down the curses and manifesting the devils themselves.

(c) Anthony North.

Recommended books

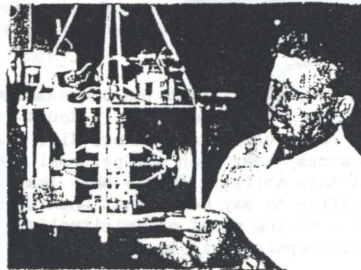
"BEYOND 2001"

BY SANDY KIDD.

Published by Sigdwick & Jackson, 1990, in Hardback priced £14.95.

Sandy Kidd is a Dundee engineer who pursued a good career within the North Sea oil industry following training as a toolmaker and R.A.F. service as an air radar mechanic with the rank of senior Aircraftsman. When, during his RAF work he was knocked off his feet by a gyroscope spinning in the closed box of a scanning unit, he became interested in the idea that gyroscopic forces might be able to effect a form of linear propulsion. Following a T.V. demonstration of gyroscopic effects in November 1974, Sandy Kidd commenced his own experiments.

In November 1984, a "contraption" which he had designed to create an opposition between gyroscopically stored energy and a centrifugal force created by rotating the whole machine, lifted off the workbench of his shed against a counterweight of equal mass, and sustained its lift while the mass of the counterweight was reduced. "This was a supreme moment I had dedicated my life to and yet I was unable to grasp the reality of what had just happened", he writes in his newly published book, subtitled "The Law of Physics Revolutionised", which has been ghost written by Ron Thompson, a Grampian Television journalist. "Then gradually as it dawned on me, I was filled with an overwhelming sense of relief. Not elation or joy, or any desire to punch the air with excitement; just sheer relief, a deep inner contentment.



SCOTS INVENTOR SANDY KIDD.

This is a very good book. The narrative rises off the workbench and glides effortlessly from a description of domestic chaos, through mechanical chaos, to academic chaos, political chaos, media chaos, geographical chaos, and legal chaos, before being restrained at the end of the book by the strain gauges of developmental chaos. On the 4th of August this year (1990), the Scotsman Newspaper quoted Mr Thomson, who acts as Sandy Kidd's spokesman, as saying that the machine has now produced results 100 times in excess of the standards laid down by British Aerospace scientists.

Since the force which produces the Kidd machine's drive cannot be shown to be a secondary effect, there should be no historical chaos now that there is his book to record the origins of the project. Sandy Kidd is a great Scottish Inventor. He persisted in proving his invention where others who discovered the same principle did not. Antigravity may now take up the banner of the scientific revolution where the dream of fusion stumbled. It may now be with us for good. But will Mr Kidd get a Nobel Prize? We should hope so.

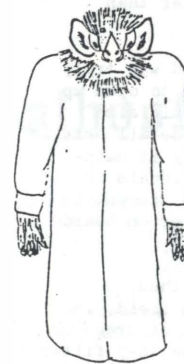
Reviewed by Dirk Van Der Plas.

THE AVELEY ABDUCTION

Edited By Philip Mantle & Andrew Valmsley

A UFOIN CASE REPORT

A5, 40 pages, illustrated



ONE OF THE ENTITIES
OBSERVED IN THE UFO.

What can one say about UFO Abductions that hasn't already been said? Those familiar with the growing literature are no doubt amazed, if not heartened by the fact that we have more than LITS, (Lights In The Sky) to contend with these days, we have aliens, (but didn't we always?) But these days, owing to the use of hypnosis, these alleged UFO Abductions, are more prolific, more staggering, more mouth watering? than before.

Surely something tangible is going on? Going on it certainly is, but in what department? Psychology? Self delusion? or could it really be E.Ts? The Greys that is, not the Government training scheme chaps.

I have been asked to review one of England's most famous UFO Abductions, that which happened to the Avis family back in 1974. It has been written up in other publications but only very briefly, and for the first time, all, and I repeat all, the important facts are here for the reader to learn.

Its impressive stuff as far as these accounts go, and will give the die hard E.T. believers more ammunition when it comes to trying to convert the non believers. O.K. Let's talk about this abduction. Being a review, I won't be able to do it all justice, but hopefully, at the end of it, you'll be rushing to purchase a copy.

We start with the Avis family returning home by car to the village of Aveley in Essex late on the evening of 27th October 1974. At first a strange light in the sky (LIT) is observed, which apparently follows the car on part of its route. In the car is John, his wife Elaine, son Stuart, son Kevin, and daughter Karen. After a short while the (LIT) disappears from view, and the family are then confronted with a strange green mist which fills out across the road to some trees on either side. As the car enters this strange mist, its engine starts to splutter and eventually ceases to function.

We learn that the family's car is somehow 'beamed up' into a spacecraft or UFO presumably this (LIT) that initially followed them. John and Elaine's next recollection is standing inside this craft looking down from above at their car. This piece of information, and many others, was obtained by the use of hypnotic regression at a later stage, basically because at the time the family can remember nothing more than coming out of this green mist further down the road, but surprisingly arriving home 2 hours later than should have been, the oft reported 'missing time' period which is usually associated with these events.

It was fully two years later, 1979, that this case came to the attention of researchers, and when so, they were informed of the witnesses strange dreams, and of strange cars which had followed the family. Policemen coming to their door for no apparent reason or just cause, and of things mysteriously 'vanishing' from the family home. Researchers were also informed of doors which would open and close in the family home for no apparent reason.

John agreed to be hypnotised in regards to possibly furthering this case for any hidden deep seated memories which might give the investigators more to work on. John's wife Elaine was however reluctant to go through with this, and informed the researchers that as her kids were still young, she did not want to subject them to this type of procedure as well, she would rather they forget this rather than possibly bringing it more to the surface.

Regressive hypnosis was then used on John and the wealth of data gained was truly impressive, and as more information came from this procedure it seemed to open up the floodgates of memories from Elaine, and as a 'trigger', she too could also relate to her own experiences within this UFO. I won't go into great detail here on what occurred to both John and Elaine in this craft, suffice it to say it maintained the usual reported 'on board' experiences shared by other individuals in such cases. Having said that, there is much differences from the Avis account in relation to others; particularly the information relayed by the entities on board this craft.

What I found most of interest from the whole story was the point made thus, and I quote, ("They can also distort what we see by use of a strong magnetic field, in fact they can even make it invisible. Even if the craft were in front of trees or any background, we would still see what was behind it. This is because they filter the image of the background through the magnetic particles of the craft, and project them like a hologram in front of the craft, thus giving the impression that no object is actually there. Also by using the particles to create a false impression, they can project an image of anything they want you to see, and in fact apply this on many occasions.") Unquote.

Now think of what happened in Scotland's 'Livingston Case' regarding witness Bob Taylor. He claimed that the object he saw at times, "blended in with the background", whereby he could see the trees behind it, he told me this himself. So it was quite a surprise to read this in the Avis account. It may mean nothing, but by golly it's there. This also brings to mind Whitley Strieber's walk into a field near his house, knowing he would see a UFO, he did, but only at a peculiar angle, like peeping through a slightly ajar door, move too far to one side and he couldn't see it, he could only see this UFO which was in a cloudless sky at a peculiar angle. So read that paragraph again, it must MEAN SOMETHING?

The entities go on to inform John that mankind was in effect created by THEM. They interbred with the women of this planet, and indeed are still doing so. There is a vast amount of data in this booklet which deserves your attention of which I'm sure you'll find of interest. If anything else, it will certainly make you sit up and take more notice of this Abduction phenomenon.

UFO Abductions are not solely an American enigma, it is a global phenomenon. The Avis encounter is a classic, but, and this is the major point, where does this incident lie? Is it within the minds of all those involved? Or is it truly an actual fact of reality, that aliens are amongst us and are taking a strong interest in mankind at this time. I suggest that you purchase a copy of the AVELY ABDUCTION and when you do, I'm sure that like me you'll be puzzling over all the data and asking yourself, "what does it all mean"? Yes the UFO phenomena is certainly reaching new heights; but it and find out for yourself.

Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson.

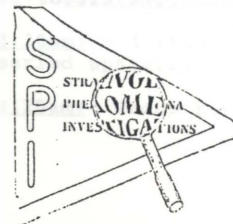
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tolbooth report BY PAUL FRIEL.

The following is a report submitted by SPI researcher, Paul Friel on SPI's research into Stirling's haunted Tolbooth, (see previous issues of ENIGMAS). Our full research team split up into two groups, and Paul presents his team's findings for the night in question which was, Friday 27th of April 1990.

Further updates with more information shall be forthcoming to the pages of this Journal, and like everything SPI does, it sure is interesting.



S. P. I.



Paul Friel TOLBOOTH REPORTA):- 'Downstairs Observation Period.'

Observers:- Paul Friel, Heather Ashberry, Running Water (R.W.) David (Manager).

12:35am : Entered top dining area, am alone.
Remaining in this location for 15 minutes.

12:50am: Report - A few minutes after entering the room I felt my head centre (Chakra) opening up. What I received over the fifteen minutes time and again was the name THOMAS (No idea as to first name or surname regarding Thomas), and the feeling or image that Thomas was a scholar, or teacher, concerned in some way about/with the building. In addition to this I got the impression of a sort of academic garb. I also received an image of a black head cowl of the sort worn by judges when passing death sentences. I received the image of a coat-of-arms, royal sort of coat of arms with a stag - I became quite aware of that symbol. I had the feeling that this place had something to do with nobility, some sort of Baron or something like that was concerned with this building at sometime.

End of report.

12:51am: Trailer to last report - Definite feeling of warmth in the interest emanating from this room, again centred in this person called Thomas, a sense of sadness as well.

12:52am Leaving top dining room to swap places with David.

12:53am Have swapped places with David who is now proceeding up to the Top dining room. I am within the cell adjacent to the toilets and am starting observation period.

1:08am: End of observation period. Report - During this period I received an image of a large church organ very vivid, very bright and I realised/felt from this that the person called Thomas was in fact a minister. Shortly after this I received an image of a person with a strange sort of white collar or neckties that chaplains in those days wore (a sort of Pilgrim's father's or old scottish orthodox/moderator type thing), and a close-up of the back of a mans head. The man had dark brown hair with a small bow around a short pony-tail. I felt quite strongly that Thomas was very concerned about the conditions at that time in the Tolbooth, especially regarding the female occupants.

I then received the impression of the name ALAN. This was immediately corrected to ALAIN with the letters being spelt out in image form, and I got the feeling of a Frenchman, a sailor who was within this building and this cell at some time. Shortly after this (but perhaps not connected with the Frenchman) I got/received the strong physical feeling of chest problems in the lungs, tuberculosis, a sense (taste) of very bad drinking water, damp straw on the floor and a very dim, dank atmosphere.

End of Report

1:10am: Leaving cell to meet up with David.

1:12am: Left David to go and swap positions with Heather and (R.W.) who are inside the Glassroom.

1:14am: Now inside the Glassroom. (R.W.) appeared to be violently pushed against the wall while standing over the flagstones adjacent to the marked flagstone.

1:17am: Heather and (R.W.) have left to go towards the dining observation points. David is in the corridor, I am in the Glassroom, and beginning observation period.

1:30am: Report on observation period - Shortly after beginning I felt quite strongly an energy field around my legs, particularly my right leg/right ankle, almost felt as if it were something on my ankle (leg-irons?). I still feel it as I am recording this report, its not gone away.

I received what appeared to be the name MOXTON in connection with this room - I have no idea what it refers to.

I felt that the floor of this room was at one time lower - possibly by a few feet.

I then received the image of an excavator and felt that if a digger excavated the ground around the Glassroom and the Tolbooth, a lot of buried skeletons would be found - I received a strong image of this.

1:35:am Group reassembled in the Glassroom, having a time-out. Ian and Suzi had joined the group.

2:15am Group recommenced observation.

2:16am: David and myself commenced observation in the top dining room.

2:35am: Report on observation period - I received the strong image of a fire and a newspaper. The meaning I intuited from this was that there was a record in a newspaper of there having been a fire in this building or on this site at some time. Whilst writing report received possible date of fire as 1714.

I also received the name SHERIFF JAMES.

End of report.

2:37am: Changed location to cell near to the toilets, accompanied by David.

2:50am: End of observation period in the cell - no phenomena felt or observed.

3:10am: Heather, (R.W.), David and myself have moved from the restaurant up to the top levels of the Tolbooth itself, replacing Malcom and Lorraine.

B):- 'Upstairs' Observation Period.

3:30am - 4:15am:- No phenomena observed or felt by myself during this period upstairs.

4:20am:- Group returned to restaurant and ceased all observation.

New Sighting Of Morag BY Ron Halliday

The following is an article submitted by SPIs Ron Halliday which although has nothing directly to do with SPIs Loch Morar project in June-July this year, (or has it ?), he presents the case of a recent sighting of 'morag', the name given to the creature which allegedly inhabits Scotland's Loch Morar. Make your own mind up. Comments please.

Coincidence or not as the case may be, nonetheless it is fascinating to report that "Morag" the "monster" of Loch Morar has been sighted again. I don't usually buy the Sunday Mail, but took a notion on September 2nd. Imagine my surprise on turning to page three (no witty remarks please), to be met by the headline; "Morag the Monster is back on the prowl". A lengthy report followed which included a sketch of the sighting and a photo of the witness Alistair Mackellaig with his two young sons. By Monday evening I had obtained Mr Mackellaig's phone number and gave him a call. Mr Mackellaig was quite willing to talk about his experience and impressed me with his sincerity. He was certainly convinced that he had seen something out of the ordinary. More of which shortly.

Having talked with one of the witnesses (his brother and sons had also sighted Morag), I decided to have a word with the journalist who had written the story. Now for the curious bit. The story went under the by line of Angus Macleod. When I rang him however, he more or less disclaimed authorship, and referred me to Ian Abernethy of the West Highland News Agency, based at Fort William. Mr Abernethy confirmed that the story originated from him and added that it was the first story on Morag that he had been able to report for about 10 years, he had reported sightings in the early 70's, including the E.M. Campbell Investigation. Ian confirmed his faith in Alistair Mackellaig's integrity, substantiating my feelings.

Actually however, though it is not made clear in the Sunday Mail, it was Alistair's brother Duncan who first spotted the three humps moving together a little way behind their 17 foot fibre glass motor boat. The brothers with the two children aboard were taking part in a fishing competition and trawling near the south shore of the loch. The encounter took place 'midway between South Tarbert and Meoble' near the deepest part of the loch. They trolled steadily down the loch some 20 feet from the shore, at a speed of about 2-3 knots, when, at about 1.45pm, they

sighted the three humps. Although it made no mention of the fact, the report was two weeks old by the time it appeared in the Sunday Mail. The report did however accurately reflect the very calm weather conditions at the time, a glass smooth loch, "an excellent day, beautiful and quiet" in Alistair's words.

The humps stood about a car wheel's height out of the water, moving slowly alongside, then past the boat. There was no noticeable wake, and the humps "kept in a straight line". Once they were past the boat, these humps just "totally disappeared", ie, (all together). Alistair confirmed that the sighting lasted between 4 to 5 minutes. The boat at the time was drifting about 10 yards from the shore, with the object about 50 yards from the boat.

Alistair is a regular sailor on the loch, and has experienced all kinds of sailing weather. He is convinced that he saw something unusual that day. How does Alistair's sighting relate to the Loch Morar Project ? (SEE LAST ISSUE OF ENIGMAS) It certainly confirms that Morag is still about and that our expedition in June July was no wild goose chase. In fact, perhaps without stretching the point too far, we might have a direct link. Our project was concerned with the psychic link with Morar. Is it possible that our presence opened a psychic door and thereby led to the most significant Morag sighting for a decade ? Coincidence ? SPI would welcome readers views.

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S.P.I. CASE RESEARCH WORK.

We now conclude our SPI case research report on Mrs Jean Smith. As readers will know by following this story in previous issues of ENIGMAS, this lady was troubled with various forms of psychic manifestations. SPI now present, what they feel was behind these incidents. The files on this case are available to any serious researcher.

Since late February 1987, I and a number of my colleagues had paid Mrs Smith many visits taking down further notes and gaining new information into recent strange events which had been occurring in her home. I had previously took steps in order to gain the services of experienced researchers such as, Professor Archie Roy of Glasgow University, Professor Morris of Edinburgh University, and Tony Cornell of Cambridge University, but all, for various reasons, were unable to help. But on the 5th of March 1987 I acquired the services of Stirling medium, Mrs Jean Glenn. This was my first meeting with psychic Jean Glenn, and I found her a very pleasant and extremely 'talkative' lady, who was speaking generally about the job in hand and Spiritualism as a whole. We arrived slightly later than scheduled at Laurieston

and were ushered in to the living room by Jean Smith. Conversation was raised on recent happenings experienced by Mrs Smith. Jean Glenn made to explain these happenings and of which findings I would totally agree with, (more in a moment). Jean Glenn went on to inform Mrs Smith, that in her opinion, this was not a specific haunting as such, but that Mrs Jean Smith is very much psychic, and that the spirit people who were within her home, were coming through to her to try and make her aware of their presence and their intentions, (whatever they might be?).

Jean Glenn sat quiet for some moments and "tuned in". After a short while, an array of 'psychic information' flowed through. She gave Mrs Smith much information concerning herself and family matters which proved correct, (but not always), and of which Jean Smith could relate to; ie, Mrs Glenn first of all said to Jean that she felt she was in a hospital when she first arrived at her home, Mrs Smith related that she in fact worked in a hospital in Falkirk, (this was unknown to Jean Glenn). Anyway, basically spirit communication was made, information relayed, and Mrs Glenn concluded with a prayer to ask these spirit people to 'move on'. The psychic herself was then surprised to see a big fat priest appear, (unseen by us)



JEAN SMITH, WATCHED BY MALCOLM ROBINSON, PRODUCES 'AUTOMATIC WRITING'.

but from a discarnate spirit writing through the pen or pencil of their control. This came about when Jean mentioned that on one occasion as she was entering her kitchen, she observed sheets of paper falling slowly from the ceiling onto the kitchen floor. Her next recollection was "waking up", and realising that she was sat at the kitchen table and had written pages of information which she could not understand. Without much prompting, she informed us that she would like to try again. Paper was provided, and Jean wrote a number of pages, this was after she had sat initially very quiet.

She was under no pressure to do this, either by Paul McKay or myself Malcolm Robinson. Her first attempt lasted roughly 4 to 5 minutes. In a matter of seconds the pen in her hand was moving. The pen was gently 'resting' in her hand, in part though, the thumb was on top of the pen, whilst the middle finger was, at times, supporting the bottom part of the pen.

After studying this 'automatic writing', I am convinced that it is most certainly in the handwriting and style of Mrs Smith, (allowing for the manner in which it

waving his hand and smiling. We left Mrs Smith that evening in a happier frame of mind, and like her, we hoped that things would now be quiet. Were they? Well yes for a time, but they unfortunately came back again.

In April 1987, my colleague and I colleague being Paul McKay, ascertained a few more incidents, one of which was the following. There were times when Mrs Smith was reading a newspaper and apparently someone in her 'head' was reading the same words, but in a male voice.

It was on this visit that Jean Smith produced in front of us automatic writing (that is writing not deemed to come from the actual person themselves,

was done). Basically the information relayed pertained to 'a ghost in Jean's house, and that I should take steps to get rid of it'. There was much more than this though. Jean started to cry when she was writing the part which read, that she was the Devil's sister. Whilst writing she would say, 'this is someone else now'. (All this automatic writing is on file and available to serious researchers).

I spent much time and many hours with witness Jean Smith, and in all that time I must confess, that apart from documenting all these strange events, we were none the wiser in understanding it or indeed 'stopping it' although it wasn't for the lack of trying. If we can say anything about this case, then we may say that the answer could lie in one of three directions. There would be those however who might say that the answer may be a combination of all three. These three possibilities as to the possible cause of the disturbances occurring to Jean Smith, are as follows.

(a) The individual known as Jean Smith was very much sensitive psychic of an order above the average individual. It has been stated that we are all psychic to some degree, but in this instance Jean Smith was well above this, as our research would seem to indicate. (b) Jean Smith was a liar or was seeking attention owing to the fact that her family of 2 girls were growing up and would soon be leaving the family home. Upon that there was no husband in the home (divorcee) whereby this situation lent itself towards a possible degree of 'depression' and there was also a total non social life.



As to her being a liar, I would say not. The body language and desperation of Jean in seeking answers to at times her 'frightening' 'visions', were all too clear to me and did not strike me as being the result of an outward liar. I may of course be wrong, how will I know for certain? but it is my belief that she was not a liar. (c) Our other option as to the answer regarding these manifestations is possibly, could they be the result of temporal lobe activity? hallucinations? an over active imagination?

Whilst Mrs Smith was on medication which I believe can, if taken heavily, induce slight 'illusions', this option was not entirely clear to SPI as being a definite answer, for she was not always on this drug when her 'visions' occurred. Even if the drug did play a small contributory part in the events, I'm quite sure that it could not account for the other aspects including the earlier psychic events in her life. So at the end of the day SPI found themselves with a vast amount of material, not only note wise, but audio and video tape as well. But where did it get us? Sadly not very far. My own personal feelings on this case, was the fact that I strongly believed Jean as being very much psychic, and as we have seen earlier, she detested this. "I don't want to be bloody psychic" she once shouted on one occasion. But she was as far as I was concerned, all the evidence tended to suggest it, and there was nothing we could do about it.

Sure we involved the Alloa Spiritualist church, and the church of Scotland, this again was in regards to trying to get rid of these outside agencies, ghosts, call them what you will. The work applied by Andrew Davie, (see ENIGMAS No 19 & 20) did not result in any stoppage of the events. For a short time yes, but it all came back again. Mrs Smith grew increasingly tired of SPI not doing something constructive for everything to cease. But how could we? we don't have a magic wand. She accepted the need to keep a diary of these events to see if they formed some kind of pattern (they did not). She accepted that SPI were trying hard to 'minimise' these disturbances with the afore mentioned applications (see again previous ENIGMAS); but she was tired, very tired of these events, and her health

was failing. And so it was in 1988, that I heard the sad news that Jean Smith had passed away of a heart attack. I was saddened to learn of this, but as a Spiritualist myself, I believe that Jean Smith is in a better place. We may never know for sure what exactly caused these visions that Jean experienced. I've speculated earlier in this article, but speculation is not, as we know, the facts. The world of the paranormal is strange no doubt, and will continue to be until we uncover some clues and gain a better understanding of "what it is all about", and this can only be through continued research and not shying away from what I consider to be the responsibilities of people like ourselves who realise that there is indeed something 'going on',

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ENIGMAS now present some UFO cases and thoughts by S.R.U.F.U. (Scottish Research into Unidentified Flying Objects), Chairman Ken Higgins. SPI are always happy to assist other Scottish groups by featuring their research in our publication, and indeed, SPI are tying closer links with SRUFO owing to the fact that, apart from the SSPR, (Scottish Society for Psychical Research), there are only SPI & SRUFO involved with this type of work in Scotland. A sad fact, considering the many groups involved with this type of work in England, (such is life ?)

S.R.U.F.O. CASE HISTORIES BY KEN HIGGINS.

S.R.U.F.O. have recently conducted investigations into reported sightings of "Large craft" in Northern Scotland. CASE I : On 31st December 1978 at 7pm, a gentleman and his wife watched as a very large unidentified craft passed up above the shores of little Loch Broom between Badcaul and Braemore junction, Rosshire. The object was described as the size of a large ocean liner with continuous brightly lit portholes all round. No navigational lights were seen and the craft made no noise. The object gave off a bright glow, but left no visible vapour trail. The craft was observed for over two minutes by the witness and his wife. As the object moved on, powerful binoculars were used.

The incident was immediately reported to RAF Kinloss with no confirmation ever returned. Despite many follow up calls, no more was heard. The witness is an ex serviceman with many years experience of various aircraft types. The witness claimed never to have believed in the existence of UFOs, until he made the above sighting. The little Loch Broom incident of 1978 is not the first, nor the last to have occurred. There have been several other reports of UFOs in this relatively remote part of Scotland. Most reports have suggested Large 'silent objects' and

have been seen by civil engineers, gamekeepers, and local postman. Recently an oil worker from Kishorn was followed by a large craft to Loch Carron, a distance of over six miles. (SRUFO are committed to further research in this area).

CASE 2 BLAIRGOWRIE PERTHSHIRE 1985.

One evening in 1985 at Blairgowrie in Perthshire, a lady witnessed a large cigar shaped object hovering above her house. After a few minutes, the object moved off at great speed. The lady immediately telephoned the police. Two constables arrived and asked questions for nearly TWO hours. During the next three days helicopters arrived over the witnesses house. Below them hung two boxes. The lady telephoned the police and was told that the helicopter was conducting tests and that there was nothing to be afraid about. The RAF story was that they were "conducting manoeuvres". The witness tells SRUFO that the RAF never carried out manoeuvres in Blairgowrie before the event, and have not been back since ?

Within a few days of the sighting something very strange happened. The lady and her son were sitting by a window when they observed I2-I4 men of various ages, and dressed in black, walk up their neighbours path. Upon reaching the door, they all walked straight into the neighbours house. Within a very short period of time, the men in black walked straight out of the neighbours home and walked off up the street towards the town. The witnesses described the men as Jewish (Yidish) in appearance, with long black hair and black brimmed hats.

Clearly curious for an explanation, the lady and her son approached the friend next door. The neighbour answered the door and was asked if everything was OK. The neighbour knew NOTHING about any visitors. The lady witness sadly died three years ago, but her son still has a vivid memory of his mothers sighting and the strange goings on witnessed by himself. A large colour painting of the UFO was sent to a research group in England. Attempts on behalf of the gentleman will be made to secure the return of this and other papers related to this case.

The gentleman has been in touch with SRUFO, and further details of other UFO activities in the area have been passed on. SRUFO Investigations are continuing.

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SPI CASE Research Work

S.P.I. LOCH MORAR PROJECT.

June/July 1990

BY Malcolm Robinson.



As disclosed in our last issue, SPI engaged themselves in a 'psychic' attempt to determine if there truly was something in Loch Morar which resembled to all accounts, that of what is also alleged to inhabit Loch Ness. Readers may find our research methods into Loch Morar peculiar, but one should bear in mind that psychic research has given us wealthy data in the past, consider psychics helping the police (etc). One never advances his knowledge if he just sits on the fence, knowledge comes about by searching for it. And that can be in any manner of means.

"I wouldn't use one of them", is the usual phrase when some individuals refer to the Ouija Board. The preconceived idea that some have that this instrument is the 'Devil's Toy', is to my mind, vastly misleading. I do however accept that there are those misguided souls who abuse, or rather, who into such hands, 'misuse' the board in a manner which undoubtedly will foresee problems, those problems may be psychological or emotional; the fact remains that the ouija board does work, and can in some instances work so efficiently, that one wonders if it truly is spirit communication.

I mention this, as no matter how well the planchette moves across the board spelling out correctly, names and information pertaining to come from the spirit world, there is always that uncertain element that it could all be due to the experimenters minds coupled with unconscious muscular activity; which if so, is remarkable in itself. There have been times when I've been experimenting with the board when I've asked repeatedly to the person who is assisting me, if they are moving it. The quick reply usually is, "not me, I thought you were". And so it goes on.

Even when I see with my own eyes the planchette moving swiftly, spelling out correct information, I still find it amazing. As with table tapping (see ENIGMAS No 19), the use of the ouija board is specifically to make contact with the other side, and to hopefully gain some information regarding that realm and its

inhabitants, 'uncle Ernie and all'. And so it was, that owing to the Loch Morar Project being of a 'psychic nature' rather than a search by mini submarines etc, we employed the use of not only the ouija board, but of other means as well. More of which you shall be reading about in further issues of this Journal.

But for now, I would inform the readership of the communication that SPI gained through the use of the ouija board at Loch Morar. Before I do so, I would like to state for the record, that previous to us going to Loch Morar on the day in which we were to be using the board, I dowsed, by pendulum, along a map of the loch asking the question, "where shall I and my colleagues gain information relevant to the loch and its possible inhabitants", (inferring of course to Morag, the nick-name for the Loch Morar Monster).

The pendulum which was quite still in my hand when I moved it slowly up a map of the loch, suddenly started to swing in a strong clockwise manner over the area known as Rubha Garbh, near Scamdale. I mentioned this to my colleagues, and we quickly agreed that we should give this area a try, more so in the light of the pendulum informing us so ?

Anyhow, our party consisted of myself, Malcolm Robinson, Lorraine Anderson, and Neil Bain, (the rest of our party were conducting research at another part of the loch.) We walked from our base at Arisaig a good distance which took us to our desired place of location, that which I've previously mentioned. After enjoying some refreshments, (no, not the alcohol variety), we unpacked our equipment and got down to some serious research work. Neil walked along the small shore line dowsing 'with some remarkable results', whilst I and Lorraine Anderson sat on some rocks with the ouija board placed securely on both our knees.



MALC AND LORRAINE SEEN
HERE GAINING INFORMATION
THROUGH THE OUIJA BOARD.

After a short prayer in the Lord's name, we asked spirit to communicate to us through the board giving us information concerning what could be termed as a, 'monster' in Loch Morar. I dislike the word 'monster', as it conjurs up fanciful imagery of exotic fortaen beasts. However, after a period of around a few minutes, the planchette moved quickly into action in a manner that I've never seen for a long time. It was very obvious that we had with us, a spirit person who had 'much to say', that much was clearly obvious. It became apparent that I couldn't keep up the taking of notes of what he was relating, and so I shouted to Neil to quickly come over and assist in taking notes.

What you are now about to read, is word for word, (well nearly ?) of what that spirit person had to say. You may not accept it, you may even think that it was a result of the product of our subconscious minds, but one thing for sure, you can't ignore it, be it whatever department you might care to think it belongs. Here it is then, possible communication to two members of a Scottish research group on the shores of loch morar on a cold day in July 1990, asking, "is there really something strange and aquatic in the loch which is not a fish, a seal, an otter, etc etc (as many people would imply) ? This is what we got, and yes, it is quite funny in bits ??



STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS



OUIJA BOARD COMMUNICATION, LOCH MORAR JULY 1990.

Malcolm Robinson began by asking if anyone was there, we then received the letters A'FAZ? and then suddenly it spelled out, will it to come, (a reference no doubt to us being at Loch Morar. After some seconds, the following is what we received.

I CAN HELP YOU TO BRING IN THE MONSTER THROUGH LORRAINE. IS SHE WILLING HER SELF, RELAX LONG ENOUGH TO LET US SHOW WHAT POWER SHE COULD HAVE. THANK YOU.

(The planchette suddenly stopped at this point, then began again with this).

HELLO AGAIN. I AM AT YOUR DISPOSAL, I AM GEORGE. (I asked this spirit communicator if it was prepared to help us, it replied) YES. I AM YOUR SPIRIT GUIDE. (I asked, Lorraine's spirit guide? and it replied) NO (I then asked if it was my spirit guide, and it replied), YES. (Owing to this communicator stating that its name was George, I asked for its second name, it spelled out), PETERS. (I then asked if he could help us, and it replied), YES IF I CAN. (I then asked if it could help us to see Morag? it replied with), YES.

The planchette stopped at this point, and I kept repeatedly asking, "can you help us to see Morag?" The planchette then sprung into action and spelled out this), YOU HAVE TOLD (garbled) ABOUT A DOZEN TIMES. (The planchette stopped again and spelled out), GEORGE IS BACK. (Again I asked, can you help us to see Morag? it replied), MABEE IF YOU TRY DROWNING HA HA HA. (Who was it that said spirits don't have a sense of humour?) (I then asked if the locals had really saw something strange in the loch, and our spirit friend replied), THEY HAVE SAW SOMETHING IN THE LOCH. (I then asked, what is Morag? it replied), MORAG A BEASTY. (indeed?)

At this point, Lorraine asked me if I was pushing the planchette and making this all up, I retorted that I was not, and was thinking that perhaps it was she. The planchette suddenly jerked into motion and spelled out the following. DONT BLAME EACH OTHER ITS ME MOVING. (I then asked, what's in the loch? it replied), YOU IF YOU ASK ME THAT QUESTION AGAIN. (I then asked if there was a dowsing connection with Morag and it replied), NO I KNOW EVERYTHING. (What about energy lines, I asked it) YES (What about elementals around the shore?) YES THEY HAVE BEEN WATCHING YOU ALL DAY. (What do they think? are they interested?) YES YOU ARE ALL MAD GETTING COLD. (I replied that we were not mad and it went on to spell), LEV GO HOME SEE YOU LATER.

And that was it. There were other brief messages, but these unfortunately were garbled and therefore of no use to us. Did we see Morag? Briefly no, even our humorous spirit friend failed to entice Morag to the surface. So was this truly spirit communication? or was it the result of our subconscious minds interacting with the planchette? Something clearly was happening, that much is obvious.

Could it have been a lower astral entity, or earthbound soul playing a practical joke on us? Neil Bain did take part in this experimnt, and although some information came through, it was slow and laboured. We at SPI feel that as a tool, the ouija board can give forward, information, but I would also stress, very

very strongly, that one should not take this information too seriously, for after all, the ouija board 'Does Work', but until such times as we can conclusively prove that its not our subconscious minds interacting with the planchette, and it is truly spirit coming through the board, then we can only present the facts and leave it up to the reader to make his own judgement.

Lorraine and I are both Spiritualists who strongly believe in an after-life, but are still prepared to accept the fact that we should not take the ouija board too seriously. Sure the board has given out in the past information which later proved to be correct, but at the end of the day, I didn't really fancy trying drowning in an effort to meet Morag.

There shall be more on SPIs research into Loch Morar and its claims of a creature (or creatures) similar to "Nessie", in future editions of ENIGMAS, stay tuned folks.

(c) Strange Phenomena Investigations 1990.



LEYING THE GHOST? By John Plowman.



The following is an article which initially appeared in the Scottish Society for Psychical Research News-Letter of Aug/Sep 1990. My thanks to the society for their permission to use it here.



Do ghosts and other reported paranormal phenomena happen on leys? I believe that I now have some evidence that they do. The problem was a matter of deciding where there was a ley without involving the site of the alleged haunt. A new approach to ley hunting is required. In his new book "Open Your Mind" (Bantam Press £13.95) Michael Bentine makes a clear distinction between ley lines or energy lines which are detectable by dowsing and leys which are straight lines linking ancient sites. I am talking about the straight line leys.

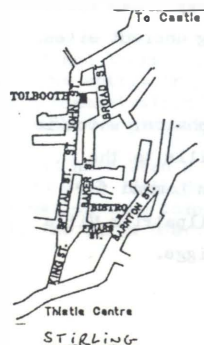
To find a ley you need to identify an INITIAL POINT, your local omphalos, which is the highest ground that is visible. Glasgow is dominated by the hills to the north and south, and in many places by more distant mountains. Ben Lomond for example, is my local mountain, seen between the Campsie and the Kilpatrick Hills and visible, weather permitting, from the higher parts of Bishopbriggs.

The new approach is based on a belief that ancient man judged or measured distances in leagues. The league is three Scottish Miles or approximately 6000 yards. Since most of us are no longer skilled at judging large distances, it is easier to do the ley hunting with a map and a ruler. From the selected local omphalos, look for a ridge or range of hills or relatively high ground and choose those places which are measured in whole leagues or half leagues from the mountain or from one another. Springburn Park and Ruchill Park are, for example, half a league apart. In Edinburgh, Arthur's Seat and the castle rock are half a league apart, and the cairn-topped hills of the Pentlands (Caerketton and Carnethy), are separated by a league. The nearer one is one and a half leagues from Arthur's Seat.

Since you can see a long way from Arthur's Seat, it is possible to have extensive leys from this place. One possible one, goes from Arthur's Seat to the hills of Arran, via Harthill and Kirk of Shotts. Our spontaneous case at Livingston, (this was a poltergeist case, Ed), was on this line. The house was reported to have footsteps, apparitions, and possible poltergeist phenomena, upsetting enough to drive the occupants out at 3 a.m. ?

Falside Hill near Tranent, is 2 leagues from Arthur's Seat, 3 leagues from the Pentlands, and 5 leagues (17 miles) over North Berwick Law to the Bass Rock. It is also 3 leagues from widow's knowe in the Lammermuir Hills. Fountainhall, alias the haunted Pencaet Castle lies 2 leagues from window's knowe along the ley to Falside Hill. Ancient man travelling from Arthur's Seat to settlements on the slopes of the Lammermuirs, would pass Fountainhall after 3 leagues. A bed alledged to be slept in by Charles the first, was impossible to keep tidy, and the apparition of a beggar has been reported haunting the grounds.

Hunters Tryst lies at a cross roads one league from Arthur's Seat in the direction of the Pentlands. It was here that the Devil caused a rumpus reported by Robert Louis Stevenson, dancing on the roof, and shaking the walls. Staff have reported seeing a "grey lady". In Stirling, the Tolbooth, now a restaurant, is on the way



to the castle, and is a typical ley point. Here too past activities have left a detectable "atmosphere". (see this issue, and previous issues of ENIGMAS Ed). Talking of the Devil brings me to what I find is a most fascinating area of ley research. By making the assumption that at some stage in prehistory, before Stonehenge was built, a massive territory marking exercise took place, a ley system, with Scots mile distances, becomes a framework for understanding why prehistoric sites are located where they are. Major

leys can be defined without any ancient sites. It then becomes apparent that cathedrals, holy wells, cairns, and tumuli, fit into place at significant points on lines of sight. Megalithic sites show an appreciation of long distance connections by a people who were giants intellectually, if not physically. The ley system may involve megalithic earthworks so old that we now think of them as natural features, attributed in folklore to the works of the Devil, or giants or witches. But that is another story.

(c) J.R.P. 1990.

UFO PLAQUE PLAN PRAISED

FLYING saucer enthusiasts from all over the world are expected to flock to West Lothian once a plaque is installed at the site of the Dechmont Law UFO sighting.

That's the view of two organisations who are convinced that the mysterious story of forestry worker Bob Taylor is genuine.

As revealed in last week's Courier, the Livingston Development Corporation have latched on to an idea from Strange Phenomena Investigations (SPI), who research para-normal incidents.

LDC officials are currently designing a plaque which will be fixed at the woodland clearing where Bob claimed he had a close encounter with a spaceship in 1979.

This week, the LDC's move won praise from SPI president Malcolm Robinson and East Calder man Kenny Higgins, chairman and found-

er member of Scottish Research Into UFOs.

"I believe this will be the first time that a UK sighting of a UFO will be marked with a plaque," said Mr Robinson.

"Bob Taylor's story is one of the most important and intriguing cases to involve UFOs being sighted in Scotland."

Mr Higgins said: "The Dechmont Law sighting is one of the most recorded and publicised incidents involving UFOs ever to have taken place in Scotland.

"People from all over Britain, and indeed from all over the world, have been coming to Livingston to see where the spaceship apparently landed.

"Marking it with a plaque is a great idea."

Both organisations say they believe Bob's story — because it has never been disproved.

"It's very, very difficult to come up with a satisfactory

explanation to what happened," said Mr Robinson. "All we can say is that it appears there was an object resting on the ground at that location."

And Mr Higgins commented: "We have not found any proof to suggest that Bob

Taylor's story did not take place — we actually believe that the event happened.

"The ground depressions suggested that something had landed there, even though Edinburgh airport reported that nothing had shown on their radar."



BOB TAYLOR.

xmas with CE IV

Forget Uncle Jim's slippers, or Auntie Jean's thermal vest, why not purchase something REALLY WORTHWHILE for xmas ? and the perfect present is the musical presentation of a typical UFO abduction. Simply titled, "Abduction", its the current C. 60 audio cassette from Glasgow rock group CE IV. Narrated by guitarist Brian McMullen, and interspersed with the music of CE IV it makes a fitting present for UFO fans everywhere. "ABDUCTION" £6.00, cheque or postal order to, CE IV Music, 102 Ferness Oval, Glasgow, G21 3SE. Its simply great man.

FROM THE LIVINGSTON AND WEST LOTHIAN COURIER. 10th AUGUST 1990.

"We must seek to answer that which at present eludes us."

Anatomy Of A Hoax BY Peter Hough.

■ Since the last issue of ENIGMAS, there have been a number of people enquiring from me for more information about the Cedric Allingham Lossiemouth, UFO case. I can therefore do no better than to present the following article which was kindly arranged for me to use by Manchester UFO researcher and author, Peter Hough. It was originally featured in the magazine, "Exploring The Supernatural". ■

PART ONE.



Recently in Britain one of the most famous 'Close Encounters' of the fifties was at last exposed and given national media publicity. It began with the publication of a book called, "FLYING SAUCERS FROM MARS", which claimed that the author, Cedric Allingham, was confronted with an alien craft and spoke with a man from Mars. This event allegedly occurred on February 18th, 1954, hot on the heels of George Adamski's own description of meeting a Venusian in the Arizona desert. The hoaxer in the Allingham affair turned out to be an internationally known scientific personality.

ALLINGHAM'S STORY.

According to Allingham's story, he had motored up to Scotland from London for a holiday studying bird life and doing a bit of hiking. While strolling along the coast between Lossiemouth and Buckie, he heard the sound of an engine and became aware of a 'swishing' overhead. High in the sky he saw a dark speck which binoculars resolved as being saucer shaped. Unperturbed, Allingham stopped for a picnic lunch before continuing his walk. After sighting the object again, it returned coming across the sea towards him. In his account, Allingham describes the noise of the engines, and how he took some camera shots as the thing landed close by. As he stepped forward to observe more detail, a sliding panel near the base opened and a figure lept out. The 'spaceman' was humanoid, about thirty two years old, six foot tall, and wearing a one piece suit. Mounted on his back was some sort of breathing apparatus.

With the aid of sign language and sketches, Allingham ascertained the man came from Mars. After an exchange of general information, several revelations regarding the

Martian 'canals' were made. Then it was time to leave. During the walk back, Allingham realised there was no one to support his incredible story. Then on the road back to Lossiemouth he found a fisherman called James Duncan who excitedly confirmed he had observed the entire episode. The Scotsman signed a sworn statement and armed with this, Allingham returned to London to begin work on his book.

SCPTICISM.

FLYING SAUCER FROM MARS caused quite a stir and sold thousands of copies. But amongst the sceptics was journalist and science writer Robert Chapman. He thought the alleged conversation between Allingham and the alien was conducted in terms which were too terrestrial. The photographs too were of poor quality. Why had he been unable to take better shots? The attitude of Frederick Muller, Allingham's publishers further fueled his suspicions. When reporters attempted to interview the author they met with a wall of silence. This was very strange. Publishers and their writers are only too happy to talk to the media and gain as much publicity as possible. After claiming Allingham had travelled to the USA in search of George Adamski, next they told Chapman he had gone to Switzerland to convalesce from a serious illness. Finally it was announced he had died. Attempts at tracing James Duncan proved just as elusive. Were both characters nothing more than a literary device? Was the book merely a thinly disguised novel? But at the time of publication a man claiming to be Cedric Allingham lectured before an audience of UFO Devotees in Kent. What then was the truth behind the mystery?

FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS.

The perpetrators of the hoax must have breathed a sigh of relief when the hue and cry eventually died away. In 1967, Robert Chapman in his book UFO, commented that the entire affair 'was probably the biggest UFO leg-pull ever perpetrated in Briatrain'. That seemed to be the last word on the subject. Then the 1980's spawned a new set of Investigators just as determined to get their teeth into the Enigma. I was one of a minority of UFOlogists who learned the real identity of Allingham some four years ago, and it astounded me. The man was not only a well known astronomical authority, he was also an arch UFO debunker.

At the time, thinking she was acting in everyone's interest, British researcher Jenny Randles wrote to him diplomatically pointing out that as the news was bound to break eventually, he should make a public statement first. Worded correctly, this would save him much embarrassment. Jenny showed me his reply. Signed 'P.M'. it was terse but fiery letter threatening Jenny and anyone else with legal action if his name was mentioned in connection with FLYING SAUCER FROM MARS. (to be cont).

news desk



■ **D. SCOTT ROGO.** Parapsychology author, D. Scott Rogo (40) who's books include "The Poltergeist Experience", Beyond Reality, "Phone Calls From The Dead", and N.A.D. a study of unusual other world experiences, was found stabbed to death at his home in North-Bridge USA. No arrests have been made and police have no motive for the killing.

■ **CAROL COMPTON.** Scots girl Carol Compton (28) who was branded a Witch and imprisoned by Italian authorities a few years back owing to mysterious fires which broke out when she worked as a nanny, has written a book about her experiences entitled, "Superstition" ? This details how she saw these strange events and how suddenly she was caught up in a tangled web of superstition. Carol herself doesn't exactly share the poltergeist angle, she maintains that she doesn't believe in that 'kind of stuff', and she hasn't had any other experiences like that since then. Carol who previously lived in Aberdeen, now resides with her husband and kids in a house in the outskirts of Bradford. "Superstition" by Carol Compton (Ebury Press) is on sale priced £12.99. ■ **GHOST.** If you don't go and watch the film 'GHOST' which is currently doing the circuit in the U.K. right now, then please admit yourself to hospital for a check up. For its not to be missed a great and very memorable film absolutely incredible. Its a film that you'll never forget, neither will Patrick Swayze who picked up a cool 4 million dollars for his part in it. Dear me, I'm in the wrong profession. ■ **NESS NEWS.** Nessie hunters packed the shores of Loch Ness in early October in an effort to win £250 000 if they could prove that the elusive Loch Ness Monster exists. Amongst those participating was the Monster Raving Looney Party leader, Lord Sutch, who tried to tempt "Nessie" to the surface with a British Rail sandwich, which as anyone should know, is an impossibility. I mean do you know of anyone who has eaten a

B.R. sandwich and came through it ? No B.R. lawsuits please. Thankfully the good old sonar came up trumps again. Aberdeen based 'Oceanscan' sent a team with high tech sonar gear, and were rewarded when a large 25ft object was observed on their screen. Leader Andy Gray informed the public that it was far too large to have been a fish. Their 3 day search cost Oceanscan £8,000, but were comforted in the fact that bookmakers William Hill who organised the hunt, gave Oceanscan a reward of £1,5000 for being the best team. Isn't that nice of them. Sonar is fine for proving something is there, but when is Nessie going to pop its head up onto the surface for longer than a few seconds ? We live in hope. ■ **MEETINGS.** Philip

Mantle, TV star and leading light of the IUN, (Independent UFO Network), paid a visit to Scotland recently in which part of his visit was spent at my home of which a meeting was arranged for a UFO Debate. Taking part amongst others were those Scottish 'musical UFO ambassadors from Glasgow' rock group, CE IV, and Ayrshire member, Alex Jamieson, with a sprinkle of SPI members as well. A good discussion ensued, which was still going on till 3am much more could still have been said, but alas time was the enemy and sleep beckoned. Philip spent the following day with his wife at Loch Ness looking for Scotland's own "Nessie". I hope you parted with some money for souvenirs Phil. Following on from that meeting was a further one again at my home in which some chaps from SRUFO (Scottish Research into Unidentified Flying Objects), paid a visit. Ever talking Ken Higgins related much Scottish UFO incidents which we all found of interest. A debate on Predestiny, karma, and Spiritualism brought the evening to a close and a good time was had by all. SPI returned the gesture by attending a SRUFO meeting in East Calder in late October, and good it was to. **IN CLOSING.** In closing, I bid you all a merry xmas and a happy new year.